

Attorney Docket No. P12325

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

✓1. (Cancelled).

A2 2. (Currently Amended) Method for establishing a connection between a calling party and a called party in a H.323 network wherein the gatekeepers are arranged in a hierarchical manner according to claim 1, the method comprising:

~~characterized in that the calling user issues a Set-up command which is received~~ receiving by a connected first gatekeeper a Set-up command issued from a connected calling user,

~~said first gatekeeper performs~~ performing a user location algorithm by said first gatekeeper on its locally attached users,

if this algorithm fails, ~~said first gatekeeper send~~ sending a Location Request message to its lower level gatekeepers, wherein each lower level gatekeeper perform performs an user location algorithm on its attached users and lower level gatekeepers,

if these user location algorithms fail, ~~said first gatekeeper send~~ sending a Location Request message to its higher level gatekeeper, which performs an user location algorithm on its attached users and gatekeepers except the originating gatekeeper,

if one of the user location algorithms ~~succeed~~ succeeds, the gatekeeper concerned ~~sends~~ sending a Location Confirm message to the first gatekeeper,

the first gatekeeper ~~sends~~ sending a Set-up message to the gatekeeper which has issued the Location Confirm message, which gatekeeper forwards said Set-up message to the called user, whereupon said connection is established.

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3. (Currently Amended) Method for establishing a connection between a calling party and a called party in a H.323 network wherein the gatekeepers are arranged in a hierarchical manner according to claim 1 the method comprising,

~~characterized in that the calling user issues a Set-up command which is received~~ receiving by a connected first gatekeeper a Set-up command issued from a connected calling user,

~~said first gatekeeper performs~~ performing a user location algorithm on its locally attached users and lower level gatekeepers,

if this user location algorithm ~~fail~~ fails, ~~said first gatekeeper forwards~~ forwarding the call by said first gatekeeper to its higher level gatekeeper, which performs an user location algorithm on its attached users and gatekeepers except the originating gatekeeper,

if one of the user location algorithms ~~succeed~~ succeeds, said higher level gatekeeper forwards said Setup message to the called user, whereupon said connection is established.